

The
Old Paludians Newsletter

Founded 1915

Website: www.oldpaludians.org

March 2003

GENERAL NEWS

First and foremost we must pay tribute to the wonderful generosity of all our members. Last year was the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the School - through all the constituent schools making up the whole - known as Slough Grammar School. To mark the event, the Old Paludians annual gift was rather special by way of a Commemorative Clock for the Hall. Thanks to your donations, a special clock was commissioned from *Smith's* of Derby and an initial handing over ceremony took place during the Autumn term. It is between the Honours Boards; a special matching plaque will be added and the unveiling ceremony will take place during the forthcoming Reunion. A big thank you to everyone; all students & visitors to the School for private or public gatherings will be able to see our splendid gift.

The School itself has moved on too, for in September 2002 it gained Language College status. Some 40 different languages are now spoken or taught and it is a further important step for the School. We offer our congratulations and best wishes to the School, the Governors, Staff and present Students and wish everyone well. Strictly, the School is now called Slough Grammar School (Language College) although undoubtedly it will still be known as SGS!! Once again we are invading the School premises and extend our most grateful thanks to **Mrs Lenton** for allowing ever-increasing numbers to enjoy our Annual "Bash". It was especially encouraging to welcome so many new Old Paludians to Reunion 2002 and we look forward to seeing everyone once again.

In two years time we ourselves will be celebrating the 90th Anniversary of *our* founding. We will be looking to make it a special occasion and the Committee will be pleased to consider any suggestions that you may have to make our Reunion especially memorable. Please pass your ideas on to any committee member. It has been suggested that we produce another Book to complement the splendid "**Recollections**" of Peter Bennett and others that we already have. A proposed format might be a series of short 'pen portraits' of people - friends, teachers etc - contributed by members of the Association if at all possible and with photographs. Throughout the years since 1915, Old Paludians have been active in all corners of the world, successful in all occupations and have made (and are making) their mark leaving the world a better place for their being. If you feel that you would like to contribute to such a book, please tell Jean Tyler or David Rogers who will co-ordinate the items. Ed.

Each Newsletter begins its life the day after the previous Reunion and I try very hard not to lose anything! These so-called 'senior moments' do occur so any errors and omissions are entirely mine for which I apologise unreservedly. It is a big undertaking but a very enjoyable one and I hope it gives everyone pleasure likewise. Please keep your news coming in and thank you for all your contributions. Valerie.

****STAFF NEWS****

Miss Gwen Allen (1934-38). I am unable to attend the Reunion but send my good wishes.

Mrs N Boul (1936-45, 1950-73). Now living near her son in Woking. We send her best wishes from the Old Paludians.

Miss G E Booth (1942-72). I am afraid I am not able to come – but I like to hear how things are going. Best wishes to everyone.

Mrs Margaret Roberts (née Oates 1947-52). Has been in Wellesbourne, near Stratford-upon-Avon, for 50 years and she and her husband celebrated their Golden Wedding last August. She has 2 children and 5 grandchildren. Remembered more as Miss Oates by the High School girls, she returned to teaching when her children were in school - part-time in the Village Primary School. Although both she and her husband have been retired for a while, both are involved in various Village activities. Unable to attend but sends good wishes. *It was good to have news after so many years and we welcome you as a new Life Member. Ed*

Mrs Anne Chedlow (1947-54). I shall not be able to attend but send my best wishes for a very happy day. It is always a pleasure to hear news of old friends, though nowadays the pleasure becomes somewhat poignant as more names have to be dropped from the list. Indeed staff and students from my years must form a small part of the Association – happy days at Twinchies Lane!! Recently I had a phone call from **Maureen Harris** (Reardon 1946-54) which was a lovely surprise. She has her Doctorate and is still in the academic world. *Believe it or not, there is still a good percentage of members from either the old Secondary School days as well as Twinchies Lane. Each year fewer are able to attend but all maintain a keen interest in all we do – Ed.*

Miss Marguerite L White (1947-71). Before Christmas Miss White suffered a slight setback but by early December she was in fine fettle again, after making excellent progress and is now (*late January*) walking down the nearby lanes to see the snowdrops. As usual, she heard from **Mrs Fraser** (Miss Slattery) at Christmas –she lives in West Heidelberg in Australia. Miss White says she will be with us in spirit at the Reunion and sends her best wishes to us all.

Mrs Maureen Hancock (1950s). Sends good wishes for an enjoyable day.

Mrs Joyce Sprigg (Patrick 1950s). Mrs Sprigg has lived in Adelaide for 36 years and writes: “Thank you for the address of **Mrs Fraser** (née Slattery) – when I phoned her she said I was the first former SHS person living in Australia she had heard from. She is a widow, aged 88 now and lives in the lily country north of Melbourne. She seemed bright, happy and active. As I write (*20th Jan*) we have had terrible bush fires these last few days. Most of Australia has had a drought for two years and the bush is tinder dry. Lightning started many of the fires and, with the high temperatures and winds, precipitated firestorms as in the case of the Canberra suburbs. Some parts of Adelaide are also at risk. We have flocks of screeching cockies which wake us each morning and they live on stocks of gum nuts – the gum trees drape over many of the roofs. I was in Slough about 20 years ago and was surprised how much the town centre had changed – probably more so now! Our Federal Government advises against trips to Indo-China due to the terrorist threat so our wings are clipped. Deteriorating sight in my case has also produced a cut-off point for me but there is an abundance of places to visit in Australia. Please accept my apologies for missing the annual Reunion – all good wishes to everyone”. *Thank you for your newsy letter as well as news of Mrs Fraser – we send our greetings to you both. I have the addresses if needed – Ed.*

Mrs Doreen Pritchard (Murden 1951-56). My good wishes for a Happy Day.

Mrs Alice Beck (1955-76). Once again I cannot attend the Reunion for personal reasons. I hope you will have a most enjoyable day and I send my best wishes to all who remember me.

Mrs Valerie Benjamin (Orme 1961-63, 1970-76). Sorry – tennis match ! Best wishes.

Miss Anne Harris (1961-68). Sadly I shall be unable to attend the Reunion. I have had my first hip replacement and await the second later in the year. I am not yet able to travel distances and Norwich is rather a long way from Slough. Please give my good wishes to those who remember me especially **Miss Saunderson, Miss Rowland, Miss Shaw, Miss Booth** and **Michelle Bovey** (née Sothcott).

Mrs Pat Purdue (Matron 1964-80). Has been in touch to say she had news of 2 deaths in 2001 – details are very scant hence they appear here: **Daphne Lines** (c1941) had lived near Bournemouth; also **Gwen Selby** (dates nk) –this is her married name and she had been evacuated to Eton Wick during the War which is why she was at SHS. Apologies for not being able to attend the Reunion but I send all good wishes. *I apologise for the lack of details and if anyone has further news please let me know. See also Obituary for Mary Upton below – Ed.*

Mrs Hudson (1968-81). Neither my daughter **Alice** (1975-79) nor I will be able to attend but we send good wishes. **Alice** was at SHS before the amalgamation – she is now Lyon but still calls herself Hudson. She is currently in her first year as Headmistress of Twyford C of E mixed comprehensive in Ealing where they are preparing for their Ofsted inspection. Despite this she said she would have liked to come to the AGM if any of her year would be there. *See note under Alice's name – Ed.*

Mrs Anne Orchard (1969-85). Sends good wishes but unable to come.

Mrs Marie Hughes (Staff 1975-2002). New Life Member. *All staff are Honorary Members and we welcome Mrs Hughes into the fold. She will be attending the Reunion – Ed..*

Mrs G A Taylor (SHS 1976-85). Sends good wishes.

Mrs Ann Betteridge (SHS/UGS 1978-83). Sends good wishes to everyone.

Hoping to attend: Mrs Sheena Cater, Mrs Marie Hughes, Miss Margaret Rowland, Miss Stella Saunderson, Miss Connie Shaw.

***IN MEMORIAM ***

Miss M N Tucker (from the early years of Slough High School until the late 1960s). Miss Tucker was always affectionately known as Tilly and sadly she died in August 2002. A very private person, she taught Latin to so many of us – we were unwilling in some cases but it is quite amazing how often we do use that knowledge of words whether for crosswords, general abbreviations of phrases etc – and so many times when trying to explain the derivation of the name *paludian* my reply is, “Oh, didn't you do Latin?”. Tall and slender, Tilly played an exceptionally good game of hockey, out on the wing, and many can remember her in those early Staff v. Girls matches. Aged 95 when she died, Miss Tucker had been looked after by her sister-in-law (herself now 88!) in Resolven, West Glamorgan for seven years; she always sent her good wishes to the girls and was interested to receive the Newsletter. *Vale! Requiescat in pace.*

Miss Edna Robertshaw (1946-53). Many of us will remember Miss Robertshaw and **Mrs Roberts** née Oates has written the following: “Edna joined the Maths Department of Slough High School in September 1946 until she left in 1953. From Slough she went to Scarborough High School where she became Deputy Head. On retirement, she continued to live in Scarborough with her sister. She died on 18 July 2002 aged 82 years.” *We are sorry to learn of the passing of another of the SHS staff and offer condolences to her family. Ed.*

Phyllis Haywood (1950-66). **Miss Rowland** wrote: “Miss Haywood, who taught at the High School from 1950 to 1966, died on 26 April 2002. Some of you will remember her as a teacher of History and R.E. and others, as a person who introduced you to the use of the school library. After leaving Slough High School, she qualified as a librarian and worked locally and at Newlands College. She moved from Stoke Poges to Chalfont St Giles and, after her retirement, in spite of a long battle with cancer, was active in the church and local community. She attended classes in Art and took up indoor bowls - all of which she kept up with until she died. She kept in touch with the school and especially with many of the teaching staff with whom she had worked. After such an active life she would have found it difficult to deal with enforced inactivity and those of us who knew her well are grateful that she was spared this.” *Miss Haywood had intended to come to the Reunion in 2002 but had to cancel at the last minute and she died just 4 weeks later. The Old Paludians were represented at her funeral. Ed.*

Mary Upton (the 60's to 1978). Colleagues **Pat Purdue** and **Connie Shaw** together with son **David** have put together their memories of Mary who taught Music and R.E. at SHS and died in the autumn of 2001. Mary was a very talented pianist and accompanist and played the organ at Ledgers Road Methodist Church where she was also a local Methodist preacher. Her son David and daughter Janet both inherited a gift for music – David was a trumpeter and pianist at SGS – his piano playing is still to the fore and he is now the

accompanist for Windsor and Eton Operatic Society; Janet teaches music at Cheltenham Ladies College where she is 'Head of Wind' at the College meaning wind instruments. Mary's husband, Brian, retired early due to ill-health and they went to live in Weston-super-Mare. Once there, Mary continued with her love of music, giving private piano lessons and organ playing in her local Church. She was greatly respected by all who knew her and her talents are much missed although they continue in the skills of both David and Janet.

Editor's Note: Sometimes we are unaware of the passing of members and are informed too late for inclusion in the Newsletter for that particular year. Even if a considerable time has elapsed we like to include notes about those who have died because their former colleagues, school friends and contemporaries like to recall happier times. The gift of a book is given to the School Library in remembrance: each book has a special nameplate recalling names and years at the School and in this way their presence lives on in a practical way. Where possible the Librarian tries to match the interests of the member with the subject matter of the book.

****1920s****

Mrs G M Bennett (Knight 1922-26). Now 92 years old. Still at Burnham Lodge and quite happy.

Bob Sands (1923-28). Sorry but this is the date of my grandson's wedding – news of Bob also from his sister **Margaret Black** (1932-37) – see below.

Joyce Preddle (Hobson 1929-32). Thank you for keeping me posted with all the news of everyone. I doubt if I'll be able to get to Slough again – Anno Domini ! All good wishes.

****IN MEMORIAM****

Molly Page (Sands 1921-28). Molly died on 11 August 2002 – and her funeral was on 22 August followed by a Service of Thanksgiving for her Life at the Burnham United Reformed Church. Over the past few years she had struggled with her increasing mental frailty and had become especially frail since breaking her hip in March 2002. She developed bronchial pneumonia and died two weeks later. All of those close to her know they will be able to look beyond the recent sadness and remember her as the happy and vital person she had been with her boundless enthusiasm and zest for life. *In sending our sympathies to the family we mourn the loss of another of the Sands dynasty and especially thank her son, Graham, for giving us news of Molly for the Newsletters over the past few years. Sister **Margaret Black** née Sands also pays tribute to her sister, see below. Ed*

****1930s****

Peter Bennett (1930-36). Peter has been in Oxford House, a nursing home in Slough, for some while now. He is very frail but has settled in well. He has a lovely room and enjoys reading and television. *We all send you our very best wishes and will miss you at the Reunion – Ed.*

Marjorie Cruse (1931-35). Unable to attend but sends good wishes to all.

John Gunn (1931-36). I won't be able to come to the Reunion but if any of my vintage are there, I would like to be remembered to them and hope that, like me, they are still in pretty good health. I have heard very good reports of the website but as far as communications are concerned I am afraid I am still in the steam age! Pat and I enjoyed some very good holidays last year, in France as usual. Though I still drive, I don't go any long distances but get help from family and friends. I used to drive to school in Slough every day in an old Austin 7 (we had three in the Garage at one time) and I saw hardly a car between Beaconsfield and Slough!!

Peggy Needham (Nicholls 1931-36). Although I would like to attend the Reunion, having left school in 1936 I find most of my contemporaries are scattered about the country – or passed on!. So for this year, my answer is that I won't be able to come. Best wishes to the School in future years and also for yourself. *Many thanks, Peggy, we all realise how difficult it can be with advancing years but do keep us in touch with your news – Ed.*

Gabrielle Moody (1931-36). No particular news except that, at 84, I am beginning to feel my age! My sister **Yvonne**, who is 80 now lives in Arizona and her eldest son, Ian, and his wife are still touring the Caribbean in a sailing boat. They joined Yvonne for Christmas. My regards to all the Old Paludians who knew me.

Margaret Black (Sands 1932-37). Unfortunately Margaret is unable to attend this year's Reunion because of a family wedding on the same day. A tribute has been paid to her sister **Molly** (1921-28) – see above – but Margaret has her own memories of a dear sister. She writes "Molly will be remembered for her prowess on the hockey field playing for the School, Old Paludians, Bucks, South of England and indeed for England, also as a Health and Beauty teacher in the Slough and Maidenhead area." I am the only 'Sands Girl' left now. My brother **Bob** (1923-28) is still very active. He celebrated his 90th Birthday in July with a happy family gathering. With my husband, I keep busy with gardening, Church activities and caring for grandsons who live nearby. I am in close touch with **Joyce Egelstaff** (Walker 1937-42) and **Rosemary Kemp** (Newman 1940-48) the other two Old Paludians who live in West Wickham. Best wishes for a happy Reunion, also to anyone who remembers me.

Margaret Gillett (McGillivray 1932-37). **Warwick Dyer** (1933-39) joins me in sending apologies for non-attendance at the Reunion this year. However we both send best wishes for a Happy Day.

Joan Clack (Waite 1932-38). Once again I send greetings from this cold and sodden corner of England (*North Yorks!*) to those who may remember me. I was very saddened to read in last year's Newsletter of my contemporaries who have now departed. One tends to think we were immortal; such happy, busy times we had and I do send my best wishes for a very successful day. I wonder if it was **Miss Gwen Allen** as our Biology mistress who introduced us one day in the summer time to some very over-ripe cod's heads and eyes!!! I remember the reaction was quite vociferous. *Were you pursued home by a variety of local moggies, I wonder - Ed.*

Len Thorne (1934-36). Len suffered a severe pulmonary embolism last October but is well on the road to recovery. He won't be able to drive himself down from Worcestershire to the Reunion – willing but forbidden by his family to undertake such a distance – but maybe he can persuade his daughter to accompany him. He remains cheerful and is looking forward to being able to get back into the air once more and resume his flying. With Slough being out of flying range we hope he will be able to make it by more conventional means for the Reunion – if not, he will be with us in spirit and sends greetings to all. *Not bad for 83!*

Frederick Esling (1934-1938/9). New Life Member. Fred's son John discovered our website and as a special birthday present enrolled his father as a new Life Member. Fred has been thrilled to find himself on the 1936 and 1938 photographs and his brother **Eric** on the 1931 SSS photo. Also he has been put back in touch with a great friend **Jack Brittain** (1934-39). *A little bird told me that, as youngsters, Fred and Jack would walk to Windsor and march alongside the Guards as they went about their Royal duties at the Castle and I doubt if either Fred or Jack will thank me for that snippet!!!! – Ed.* On leaving school, Fred joined the Royal Navy – commissioned as an Air Electrical Officer, serving in Singapore between 1963 and 1966. Whilst in Malaysia on holiday with the family, he met **Audrey Wye** (Anderson 1934-39) with whom he shared a desk at school during Latin lessons. *Fact is surely stranger than fiction – welcome to the Old Paludians and we hope you will be able to make the Reunion – Ed.*

Reg Cox (1934-40). Has received news of **Rene Elfer** (Bubb 1937-42).

David and Ann Neale (David [1934-40] and Ann [Keeping] 1945-50). Once again they send greetings to all who remember either of them. Still living in the Woodford Green area where they have been since their marriage in 1955 and with, for the last 15 years, their daughter, son-in-law and the 3 grandchildren. David retired in 1989 and has since kept busy sharing in the Bible presentation work of Gideons International, including giving to children in some 44 secondary schools in the NE London and Essex area. Brother **Robert Neale** (1945-51) lives in New Zealand and although retired, is much in demand for speaking engagements – he is a brilliant orator, although I say it myself *says David*. As usual they paid their annual visit to **Miss Allen** in the lovely Cotswolds village of Shipton-under-Wychwood and keep in touch with her during the year. *We welcome Ann as a new Life Member – Ed.*

Delsa Brooks (White 1934-41). I am unable to attend but send best wishes to all.

John Mabbott (1935-41). John sends good wishes to everyone – he's unable to come this time.

Jean Bostock (Burnett 1936-41). Sorry I shan't be with you this year due to a further fall (broken knee-cap on the same leg as four years ago)! Not to mention advancing years!! Best wishes to all - especially those from my own years – for an enjoyable day.

Allan Burney (1936-41). Was being sought by **Gerry Lines** in Canada and they have made contact – see below. Allan has been able to let us copy some early photographs to put on the website including the elusive 1936 school one.

Gerry Lines (1936-41). New Life Member. Gerry lives in Maple, Ontario, not far from Toronto. He has been put in touch with **Allan Burney** and **Charles Cox** and would love to hear from any others from his years at the School. There are some names in the **Lost** column at the end – including some of the girls from the High School at that time. One of his contemporaries from that time, **Eileen Bowen née Farr**, has recently died. Gerry also went to Cippenham School and remembers names from there, prior to 1936. *At a 70th birthday party at the Cippenham School last July, (my old school too), several of the 'old-timers' remembered Gerry. Thank you for getting in touch through the website – Ed.*

John Ware (1936-41). I am keeping fit and still fully occupied in my practice as a Chartered Accountant in Burnham. Keeping up with tax and other legislation is a splendid way to keep the mind from getting rusty. I am still an active member of the Old Paludians Lodge and Chapter where we see old school friends (and indeed, some new ones). I had hoped to make the Reunion this year but it isn't possible – my apologies and best wishes for a happy and successful day.

John sent along the following recollections of a bygone era compared to life in modern times:

In 1936 we had our first House Supper (Hampden), and as the youngest member at 10½ years old, I had to propose the toast to the House (carefully written for me beforehand). I cannot remember who replied as the most senior boy in the House, but it was probably Weller. After the supper, in the evening, I walked by myself from the Grammar School the length of Sussex Place, the High Street and Mackenzie Street to the station, caught a bus to Burnham, and then walked from the bottom of Burnham High Street to Gore Road where we lived. I went in through the unlocked back door. There was never the slightest question of my being in danger walking the evening streets of Slough as a small boy, and neither my parents nor the school would have had the slightest reason to suppose that I was anything other than completely safe. I recently went with my wife to central Slough – it was a Friday afternoon and there was a brooding air of menace and alien fear. We escaped as quickly as we could. *Thank you, John for so eloquently summing up the changing times - Ed*

Barbara Riggs (Cooper 1936-42). Sends good wishes to everyone.

Ian Bryant (1937-42). *Ian writes from Spain:* I had intended coming to the Reunion, however commitments here have arisen which, coupled with inability to obtain suitable flights, mean I shall be unable to attend. Trust you have a good response and I'm sure a successful day will be had by all. Will miss you all and will be thinking of you on the day.

Rene Elfer (Bubb 1937-42). I would very much like to get in touch with anyone from my years at SHS – the one year at William Street and then the rest at Twinches Lane. *Rene is living in Houma, Louisiana, USA. I have contacted about 10 or so 'girls' for you, drawing their attention to your note so here's hoping! Ed.*

Iris (Betty) Hull (Burnett 1937-42). Sorry I shall not be able to attend the Reunion this year. We've had a busy year. Our 9th grandchild, Joshua Joseph was born amid much rejoicing last March, after the heartbreak of two disappointments for our youngest son David. Tony and I visited Rhodes in May - a lovely island which we much enjoyed. Then a visit to Lourdes in July to celebrate our 51st wedding anniversary. I've finally given up Oxfam after 20 years, but still continue with meals-on-wheels and church work. Am currently blundering through various frustrating stages on my first computer! Very best wishes to all, particularly the tennis-playing friends from the past.

Barbara Longman (Wardall 1937-42). Remembers **Rene** and sends very best wishes for the Reunion.

Frank Robotham (1937-42). I may not be able to get to the meeting. If I can't get there, my thoughts will be with you all.

K Ivy Harris (Cook 1937-43). Ivy has recently moved home, from Egham to Oxford, to be nearer her daughter **Gillian** – also former SHS. She gives us the sad news of **Yvonne Jones** (Overshott, 1937-42) who lost her husband George in January. Ivy and Yvonne, and their respective husbands, met at Road Research Laboratory in the old days at Harmondsworth and they spent many family holidays together. Yvonne is unwell but has the support of her loving family and friends. *Of blessed memory – I worked at RRL all my working life and Ivy and I always go through the "do you remember" routine at Reunions – Ed!*

John Hales (1938-42). I regret I shall be unable to attend the Reunion this year as I shall be in Cornwall at the time – regards to everyone.

Jean K Jones (Grant 1938-42). Unfortunately no news – except that I am alive!!! *Jean lives in Cape Peninsula, South Africa.- our sole representative on that huge continent. We hope all is well with you and the family – Ed.*

Pamela Main (Sheppard 1938-43). My apologies. Have a great day and best wishes to all.

Audrey Tarrant (Elderfield 1938-44). Sorry I can't join you at the Reunion this year but I always enjoy the interesting Newsletter. Such happy times we all shared at SHS in spite of wartime restrictions! Husband Phil and I are still enjoying retirement on Vancouver Island in Canada. Many comments on our UK Christmas cards say "*Hope you're not snowbound from the heavy Canadian snowstorms shown on tv*" This causes a smile as we've only had 3 days of snow in 2 years – with a colourful array of polyanthus blooming all winter in the garden. This southern area of Vancouver Island lies south of the 49th Parallel and enjoys one of the mildest and sunniest climates in Canada! I still keep in touch with **Daphne Boyles** (Speed 1939-44), **Joyce White** (Ambrose – in Hereford), **Pam Green** (Dear 1939-44) and **Sheila Austin** (Jeffrey – in Auckland NZ). **Daphne** was my lovely bridesmaid 55 years ago!!!! Memories, memories – good wishes to everyone. By the way, if anyone is over this way and wants to pop in for a 'cuppa' then we are 30 miles south of Victoria on Vancouver Island and the phone number is 250-743-9161. Good wishes to everyone from Canada. *Now there's an invitation we can't resist – I hope you get lots of visitors and thank you for your lovely note and the photo – good to put a face to a name – Ed.*

Betty Britten (Boys 1939-42). Not able to attend but sends good wishes to everyone.

Peter and Joy Egelstaff (Peter [1939-43] and Joy [Salter] 1938-4). Year 2002 was another busy year for us. We spent 6 weeks in Australia visiting two of our children who live in Sydney and Brisbane, also friends and relatives in Adelaide and N Queensland. The month of October was spent in UK visiting our first great grandson in Edinburgh, our son in Wales and friends and relatives across England. Since our return to Canada, our eldest grandson and his wife have become the proud parents of identical twin girls.

Joyce Amoroso (Kirtland 1939-44). Sorry I can't be with you. I have now had both cataracts done and can see as well as I did before I wore glasses at 11 years old! It really is a wonderful op - all I need now is a new spine!! The family are all well with no more additions – I saw the 'Swiss lot' in August when we had a big celebration out in Zurich for James's 20th Wedding Anniversary. All the family went and it was quite a 'do'. My regards to all who know me.

Barbara Palmer-Hall (Gibbons 1939-44). I am sorry I will not be at the AGM as I shall be on holiday. I send my good wishes to everybody and look forward to seeing you next year. I have just completed 17 years as a volunteer at the Princess Alice Hospice in Esher and have now become involved in raising funds to build a Children's Hospice in Hampton. Building is due to commence this month.

****IN MEMORIAM****

Betty Bristow (Hathaway 1935-40). Betty died on 15 June 2002 at the age of 77. She had lived in Slough from the age of six and attended first the Thomas Gray Primary School, and then Slough High School. During the Second World War, she corresponded with Donald Bristow, an RAF prisoner of war in Germany, and in September 1947 Don and Betty were married at St Giles Church, Stoke Poges. They had two sons, Stephen and Paul. Don and Betty lived in Slough until 1959, then in Taplow, and from 1977 in Maidenhead. Betty's main interests were those of an expert home-maker, notably cooking and knitting. She was also a voracious reader and crossword enthusiast. After her father's death in 1975, Betty was an active member of the WRVS and helped out at the Royal Canadian Memorial Hospital at Cliveden. Don, her husband, died in 1993. Throughout her life, Betty was in close touch with her brothers and sisters, Phyl, Rose, Bill, Valerie and Bob. Phyl and Bill have also passed away in recent years; Rose, Valerie and Bob still live in the Thames Valley. *In extending our sympathies to the family, I would like to thank Stephen and Paul for this tribute to their mother. Ed.*

Vic Benbridge (1938-43) With much sadness we have learned that Vic died on 27 July. He always attended Reunions with his wife, Muriel, until the last few years when he was unable to travel. He married **Muriel Cooke**, who was at the High School from 1940-46, and their many friends will regret the passing of one of life's real characters. For a short while Vic served on the Old Paludians committee and he will be greatly missed. *We send our thoughts and condolences to Muriel at this time.*

Tony Stevenson “Steve” (1939-45). **Ron Fidler** (1943-49) wrote this moving tribute to his friend.

Tony died from a heart attack last June, whilst playing snooker. It happened suddenly without warning although he had a heart by-pass operation some three years ago. Tony started work at I.C.I. Paints Division, Wexham Road, Slough and then was called up for his National Service, during which he ended up being an M.P. (poacher turned gamekeeper?). Upon his return to civilian life Tony joined a chemical company in the City, with whom he remained for the rest of his working life.

After military service Tony resumed his various sporting activities and he quickly became a stalwart of the Old Pals hockey team, playing at full back in front of Frank Robotham – in combination a formidable last line of defence. His speed and strength soon led to Bucks County recognition and regular appearances for the Cygnets (an exclusive invitation only club of county players). He captained both the Old Pals and Bucks. On Sundays, in mixed hockey, Tony switched to centre forward where he was a prolific goal scorer, terrorising defences with his dashing style, often after a very few hours of sleep following an Old Pals Dolphin dance. His long black flowing hair and huge handlebar moustache attracted many supporters to watch the very successful Upton team (which usually also included **Colin Thompson**, the England and Great Britain international) playing on Lascelles. In later years Tony turned his hand to golf, captained his local club in Essex and once again showed the natural sports ability he had in his hockey days. Tony was a charismatic, “larger than life” character that you meet very few of in life and never forget. He will be sadly missed by Kate (his wife whom he married in 1959), daughter Jane and his many sporting, social and business friends. *We send condolences to the family in their loss – Ed.*

Keith Wyatt (1939-45). We are sad to report the death of **Keith** in early November 2002 after a short illness. He had always been a good communicator in every sense of the word and his humour and kindness shone through until the end. Friends recall he always had a joke to tell or a tune to play and he will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him. His wife **Anita** (Woodley 1940-46) is also a Life Member and we send our sympathies to her and the family for their loss.

Sheila Parker (Southwood 1939-46). Sheila sadly died in December just 2 days before Christmas. She attended the new school at Twinches Lane all through the war years except for just a short while when she was at Winchester High School. *Her sister Joan sent us the news and we offer our condolences at this sad time. We do appreciate you making contact with us in order to let Sheila’s friends have the news – Ed.*

****1940s****

Muriel Benbridge (Cooke 1940-1946). Husband **Vic** (1938-43) died July 2002 and there are a few words of tribute above. Muriel sent in a copy of a wartime letter sent from Miss Crawford to all parents concerning the procedure in the event of a bomb falling nearby and general behaviour during an air-raid. The letter began “Madam” and the language was so stilted and precise – how times have changed within 2 generations.

Vernon Wardall (1940-47). I heard from **John Padley-Smith** (1945-50) at Christmas and so we are meeting up at the Reunion after 52 years!

Nancy Evans (Pardoe 1941-43). Unfortunately I will not be able to attend. However I am glad that I attended last year and met a few ‘girls’ who were easily recognised. I hope all goes well and look forward to receiving the Newsletter.

Dawn Dudbridge (Smith 1941-44). Travelling is awkward so I am very sorry to say I cannot see myself coming to Reunions in the foreseeable future – but I would like the Newsletters please. *Everyone on our ever-growing list of members and others who may have been in touch with us receives a copy of the Newsletter – some are collected on Reunion Day, some are posted and some are sent via email. We try to send them out as soon as possible after the Reunion and we look on it as our major link between all members wherever they are in the world. Although the website carries news and information, the Newsletter remains very personal to our members and any information contained therein remains confidential unless we are specifically asked to post it on the website - Ed.*

Fred Collins (1941-47). It is with regret that I have to advise you that I will not be attending the A.G.M. of the Old Paludians in March as Mary & I will be in New Zealand on a Rotary Friendship Exchange visit at that time. We leave here on Vancouver Island March 2nd and arrive in Auckland March 4th. We did not get over to the A.G.M. last year as our trip to East Africa and the Middle East was cancelled due to the unrest in the area following the September 11th atrocities and we had hoped to attend the meeting on our way home. Who knows, we might well get over there for the 2004 A.G.M. It was sure nice to meet some of my old

school friends when we were there a couple of years ago. I only wish that we had more time to meet more of them and to hunt up a few who were not there. I don't suppose you have had any leads on the whereabouts of **Terry Wherelock, Gordon Duncan, Tony Fisher, John Fry** and **Lesley Darkes**, by any chance? I am active with Rotary, Probus Club (was elected as First Vice President this year) and our Shriners organisation - a Masonic branch which sponsors hospitals for children with orthopaedic problems and burns. Still have a few moments to spare, when the weather permits, to go flying in our old Cessna 180, but not the cross Canada flights we did in 2002. Our very best wishes to all at the A.G.M. Hope to see you in 2004.

Evelyn Greenwood (Gibbons 1941-46). I will be attending with **Dawn Bennett** (1941-47). Our dear friend **Doreen Gibbs** (Richardson 1941-46) from school right up to this year has sadly died. She had lived in Cippenham for many years before moving to Cornwall. *See obituary for Doreen below – Ed.*

Gwen Gale (Knight 1941-47). I would like to say **thank you** to the Old Paludians for the lovely flower arrangement received after the 2002 Reunion. I would also like to thank all those who sent 'Get Well' messages and good wishes during the year.

John and Pat Hill (John SGS 1941-47 and Pat (**Hire**) SHS 1942-46). I have received your January letter re the AGM but regret that it is unlikely that I can attend due to the distance. I was at Slough Grammar School from 1941 to 1947 and remember most of the comments made by John Tebbit in "Recollections of Slough Secondary School and the Old Paludians". We were in the same form and even worked together for a short time at Sobell Radio in Langley Park, before our National Service in the RAF. After my Demob in 1950 I started work in the Drawing Office and finished up as a Project Planning Engineer.

In 1952 I married Pat Hire who was a pupil at SHS and we have two children. **Christopher** was born in 1963 and attended SGS from 1974. He then went to Nottingham University where he obtained his Ph. D. and is still there as a member of their staff. **Penelope** (Penny) who attended SHS from 1978, was, as a sixth former, one of the first girls to be transferred to SGS before it became Upton Grammar. She is now a Marketing Executive with Kawasaki in High Wycombe and still lives in Slough. I retired in 1990 to Lanivet near Bodmin in Cornwall. We live within twenty miles of both the North and South coasts of Cornwall. I have become very involved in local affairs at various times as Secretary of the Neighbourhood Watch, Member of the Parish Council and Chairman of the Friends of Lanivet Church. In 1994 I took up Flat Green Bowling and have been Secretary and Captain of Bodmin Bowls Club. Pat is President of the local Women's Institute and Treasurer of two other organisations. My other main hobby is computing and I am researching my Family Tree as well as currently attempting to write my autobiography. Pat and I would be pleased to hear from anyone who knew us. *I have John's phone number and email address so please contact me if you want to make contact with John or Pat – or indeed, contemporaries of Christopher and Penny - Ed*

John Tebbit (1941-47). Will be back from Australia in time to attend the Reunion.

Margaret Williams (Jones 1941-47). Sorry I can't make it to the Reunion this year as I am away.

Audrey Bedford (Nickless 1941-48). Audrey sends good wishes to everyone - she and her husband John continue to travel widely in their work for the Church.

Kathy Clark (Jamieson 1942-48). It is our Golden Wedding Anniversary this year and we shall be celebrating and holidaying quite a bit over the year – and one holiday will cover the Reunion date. Only the fifth or sixth I've ever missed! As Reunions started off with the Old Paludians playing the School at hockey and I was lucky to be in that excellent team, I couldn't miss! Frank and I are step-great-grandparents – it was left to our son-in-law to provide this special little boy!! (from his previous marriage) but we don't care. I hope you will have another great Reunion and send my best regards to everyone, especially my year and the one above. *Congratulations and enjoy your holidays – Ed.*

Joyce Head (Maton 1942-48). Sorry I cannot come to the Reunion this year, my daughter has just moved to Cyprus and we are going over to help her.

Alicia Bentley (Linton 1942-49). Am very busy at the moment – unable to attend but send best wishes.

Peggy Rapley (Haskell 1942-49). I am so sorry I won't be at the Reunion but my husband isn't well enough to be left for any length of time, definitely not all day. I will miss catching up with the gossip and all the familiar faces – maybe next year. Had a couple of spells in hospital – a pacemaker was fitted when it was discovered my heart was only beating intermittently (no-one knew and I felt OK!!!) and then a hysterectomy in October but I am back to normal now. My kind regards to all those who remember me.

Elwyn and Marie Dyer (Elwen 1943-48 and Marie [Colbourne] 1943-47). We are unable to attend the Reunion this time as our small elderly dog is rather poorly at the moment and cannot be left on his own.

Jenny Harman (Pugh 1943-48). Sorry to say, a Lace Day is being held on that day. A ticket for this was purchased at the Lace Day last year, which is the norm. Still enjoying making lace very much.

Margaret Paine (Paine 1943-48). Life goes on as normal except with a few more aches and pains!! But still managing 'doggie walkies' and Scrabble to keep the brain working. Spent a few days in Edinburgh last year with my Scottish grandchildren – they go to a lovely old school below the castle. Two more grandchildren are at school in Chalfont St Giles and my daughter Judy's twins are now at school in Wokingham so I have plenty of things to support. I haven't managed to contact anyone else during this year but still hope to complete Form 5B sometime – anyone with more news to make the form complete please phone me on 01753 643740. Well done, **Audrey (Lines)** still doing high kicks in a Dance Troupe! Happy 70th Birthday to all the 1943 intake – are we *really* that old. *Only as old as you feel – Ed.*

Barbara Price (Brook 1943-48). Unfortunately I have booked a holiday so will be unavailable on 22 March.

Jill Sayer (Emmett 1943-48). Prior engagement means I won't be coming this year – my apologies to the 'girls' and I will see them later in the year if we have a get-together.

Anne Letchford (Reeves 1943-49). Able to attend this year – no holiday to get in the way!

Barry Serjent (1943-49). *Barry has fond personal memories of his cousin **Angela Mitchell** (Jaques 1941-49) and her family - there is also fuller account of her life in the **In Memoriam** section below.* Angela was a 2nd cousin – to be precise – and between 1941-49 I was brought up by her parents and became part of the family. Angela's mother **Dorothy Jaques** née Serjent had been at the old School in the centre of Slough and when I went to the Grammar School in 1943, our Physics master "**Ben**" **Llewellyn**, remembered teaching "Dolly Serjent" and often asked after her. In those days Angela seldom came home to lunch, if it wasn't extra hockey practice, it was piano lessons. Her energy was amazing. Apart from her friendship and support during those years, she found time to design scenery for my toy theatre and coached me into getting, against all odds, a credit in maths for my School Certificate! Her great contribution to the sporting world is below but like many people, while I am saddened by her death, I look back on those days and have many happy memories of a lovely lady.

Shirley Graver (Grantham 1944-48). Sends best wishes to all.

Jean Cartwright (Berryman 1944-49). I am not able to come this year but I hope to attend again next year.

Mary Langford (Winslet 1944-49). Unfortunately I cannot attend this year as I will be in hospital having my second hip replacement – the first one was done at the end of November. Not bad for the NHS!! I look forward to receiving the Newsletter. *Hope all goes well, Mary. Ed.*

John Waller (1944-49). I left school and went to work at the Pest Infestation Laboratory (PIL) just round the corner from school on the London Road. While there I took the London Matriculation exam, then intermediate B.Sc. followed by a B.Sc.(Hons) from Birkbeck College, University of London. I spent 2 years National Service in the Royal Air Force (1952-1954). In 1965 my family and I emigrated to Nelson, New Zealand where I worked for the Entomology Division of the D.S.I.R. In 1968 we left for the U.S.A. where I studied for a Ph.D. in insect toxicology. We returned to Christchurch, N.Z. in 1973 where I took a Senior Lectureship in the Entomology Department at Lincoln University until I retired in 1992. While at Lincoln we lived on and farmed a small block of land, running some sheep and growing asparagus and eventually planted a 10 acre vineyard. We have since sold our farm and now live in the village of West Melton. We have 2 daughters, a son and one grandson.

John Padley-Smith (1945-50). New Life Member. I have been put in touch with two classmates (**Vernon Wardall** and **Dick Robotham**) but would like to make contact with any other survivors" from Upper 5A 1945-50 – do you know where **John Killip** or **Michael Webb-Morris** are? Another name is **Brian Lane** from Upper 5 – 1943-48. By the way, I have been wondering whether anyone has any info. re **Dennis Birt**. He was about the same era as **Vernon** (41-47), and like the two of us, was in the School Coy. of the Army Cadets. Many years (decades) ago, I am sure that someone said something about him suffering from some muscular condition or other. I have recently traced some photographs of Vernon, Dennis etc. in the A.C.F. which brought back memories. *John and Vernon will be meeting up at the Reunion.*

Vernon Amos (1944-52). Unable to come to the Reunion. We moved house last year but still in the same general area. I resist all attempts to become computer literate! Best wishes.

Susan Cooper-Cronyn (Cooper 1944-52). Sorry I can't come – I always seem to be in the UK at the wrong time of year!!

Shirley Breer (Couchman 1945-49). I was at the High School from 1945 until 1949. I did find myself on the photos from 1946 and 1948. It looks like some of the girls that I knew in school will also be going to the Reunion. Should be a very interesting day. Looking forward to seeing you! *Shirley travels from New York to be with us and we welcome her to her first Reunion – Ed.*

Margaret Wall (Dabbs 1945-49). Sorry I can't make the Reunion. Hope the day goes well and *Hi* to all the oldies.

Trevor and Christine Taylor (Trevor 1945-51) and Christine [Scott] 1950-55). Both of us are still working part time. Chris enjoys her weekly Line Dancing even if she suffers afterwards and is an enthusiastic flower arranger. Trevor still umpires in the Thames Valley Cricket League and writes boringly about wine! We now have 4 grandchildren. Double booked but may be able to come to the Reunion!!

Mike Turner (1945-52). Mike lives in the tropical rainforest of Northern Queensland and writes: "Regrettably I will not be in UK at the time of the Reunion – it is usually June/July time when I come for the annual Lunch of the Hong Kong Police Association with whom I have close links". *When asked if we could have some Oz sunshine sent over, he replied it was wet there too, but warm – and offered instead 6 ducklings and 20 multi-coloured guinea pigs of indeterminate sex which I felt honour-bound to refuse – Ed.*

Don Wells (1945-52). Don lives in Aberdeen and says, "Nothing very exciting happened this past year – except that I survived it!! Had a heart-bypass op and having never ruffled the sheets of a hospital bed since an appendectomy in 1956, I now find myself looking back on two recent serious episodes. Perhaps this ageing thing *does* apply to me after all. I hope to be able to attend this year's Reunion."

Pamela Olding (Clements 1946-50). I am unable to attend owing to home commitments - hope the day goes well.

Peter Tyler (1946-51). Is still playing his double bass and tuba with orchestras, bands and groups in the Windsor, Maidenhead and Slough area, occasionally with Old Paludians or former members of the Boys Brigade. Recently played for a local performance of *Barnum* when four generations of the family were in the audience. The rest of his time is spent restoring and repairing double basses.

Graham Holmes (1946-52). Graham suffered a stroke last year and remains seriously ill. His wife Valerie, although not ex-SHS, knows many of the Old Paludians through Graham's keen association with hockey and cricket. She recalls that 40 odd years ago "...most of my weekends were spent up at the Club in Taplow" She sends best wishes for a lovely day at the Reunion. *If anyone wishes to make contact with Valerie please get in touch with me – Ed.*

Anne Stephens (Hales 1946-53). 2002 was a very special year for us - our Ruby wedding. We celebrated the anniversary in Paris in June. After a wonderful week, we celebrated again with our daughter, Jacquetta who lives in Bavaria, and son, Guy who lives in Bath and their respective families, in Disneyland Paris - 4 days with 5 delighted small grandchildren (2½ yrs, 3x4 yrs and 7 yrs) was a magical experience for us all !!! However, in November, a special holiday for just the 2 of us was a month in S Africa, which truly exceeded all our expectations. We are still leading very busy lives in retirement in the beautiful Vale of Clwyd in N Wales. I am hoping to come to the reunion with my sister **Jackie Dibling** (Hales 1953-59) and my cousin **Daphne Botting** (May 1936-42). *Stop Press – Anne is unable to attend.*

(Dr) Maureen Harris (Reardon 1946-54). Sends best wishes to everyone.

Anne Barnard (Stavert 1947-51). I regret I must miss the Reunion yet again but have made other arrangements for that weekend. Still enjoying marvellous Shakespeare productions at Stratford!

Colin Shepherdson (1947-52). New Life Member – unable to attend but sends good wishes – see **Mary** below.

Malcolm Hellings (1947-52). Still searching for old friends from Farnham Council School – **Mrs Bristow's class** 1946/7. See back page for all the names.

Michael and Shirley Redford (Michael [1947-53] and Shirley [Collins] 1949-55). Regret we can't make it this year. Best wishes.

Malcolm Doyle (1948-52). Malcolm is coming again this year from New York – and bringing along **Shirley Breer** (Couchman 1945-49) also from NY. *Glad to welcome you both – Ed.*

George Fleetwood (1948-53). George recognised his sister's name **Nancy Green née Fleetwood** and was able to pass details on to **Rita Hinton** who was hoping to find her. George is also in touch with **Gloria McFarlane née Coulson** (1949-57) who is now living near Harrogate in Yorkshire. *Thank you, George, for your help – Ed.*

(Fred) Brian and Susan Barnes (Brian 1948-55, Sue [Pattemore] 1952-59). Very sorry – we shall be away on holiday. Best wishes.

Revd Robert Giles (1948-55). New Life Member. Retired in autumn 2002 as Rural Dean of Kettering and Rector of 4 parishes (Broughton, Cransley, Loddington and Thorpe Malsor) and moved home. Married with 5 children and 3 grandchildren although there was another on the way when he wrote in April 2002.

Gillian Roast (Pegg 1948-54). Sorry I am unable to attend this year – best wishes for a successful meeting.

David W Guest (1948-56). Having greatly enjoyed my first visit last year, I am sorry to say that I am unable to attend this year as I will be in Australia. My apologies and best wishes for a very happy event.

Ann Mynott (Miles 1949-53). Sorry I can't attend this year – I will be on holiday. Best wishes.

John Alder (1949-54). Yet again the date coincides with our plans to fly over (*from Spain*) in early April. At least we both made a quick visit to the June soirée when I met a fellow classmate I had not seen since 1954 and met up with **Alan Forbes** and **George Pontin**. Maybe next year? All the best for the Reunion.

Peter Burgess (1949-54). My picture history book of *Slough – a Century of Change*, is still available from me at SGS events or by post at £10 (incl postage) from 15 White Hill, Home Meadow, WORCESTER, WR4 0JG. We (Upper VB, SGS 1949-54) are still searching others of that era - see the list in the '**Lost**' section at the back. All the UVB Gang of '54 are looking forward to the Reunion but we will miss **Len Jackson** from Chicago. I will be in the 'Windy City' in May to see him and Donna for a few days before going on to L.A..

Len Jackson (1949-54). Definitely coming next year – for 2 weeks! Hope to catch up on people and places I have so far missed especially **Morag Cameron** and **Jean Wisbey** from Junior School – how many years?

Valerie Kershaw (Speed 1949-54). I may be able to come in the afternoon. Still working hard !!

Morag Norman (Cameron 1949-54). Still remembers the Reunion a few years back when the '49ers celebrated their 50th anniversary. Morag and her husband have a 16 acre mixed organic farm (Soil Association approved) with sheep, cattle, occasional pigs, free-range hens and vegetables and which has a farm shop as well as a holiday cottage converted from an 18th century dairy. This is all set close to the Forest of Dean with spectacular views across the Wye valley and towards the distant Welsh Mountains! Unfortunately the Reunion date usually clashes with the start of lambing but she sends good wishes.

Jeff Parker (1949-54). An update for the **lads of UVB 1954**. My wife Ellen & I spent the month of October in the U.K. and France, touring with my sister **Norma** (Meyrick SHS-1951-56) and her husband **John**. We had a wonderful time. It was the most time we have ever spent together and it was real quality time. As we grow older and lead our separate lives we can drift apart; so it is good to spend time getting to know your own family again. Since returning to California I have had spinal surgery (spinal fusion) and came home from the hospital yesterday (*20 Feb*). The operation was successful and I am walking about with the aid of a Zimmer, which I should discard in about a month. Should any of the Old Pals wish to contact me my E-Mail is :jeffremco@aol.com, my phone is 909-693-0332 and address is:..... I don't think my back will be up to this year's Reunion, but maybe next year. *A whole group of the UVB 1954 lads gathered together whilst Jeff was over here and 'The Red Cow' is still recovering!! They had a great time. Our good wishes for a speedy recovery – Ed.*

Penny Schick (formerly Gniel, née Norcott, 1949-54). I have enjoyed reading previous Newsletters – we have, at last, had some rain, about 2½ inches worth! (see *Sylvia Legg*, 1951-56) I am still riding my lovely Arabian mare – 21 years old making her 63 in our years so I suppose we will get to 65 before her; I also

have my 2 little dogs and 3 geese now – mum, dad and their daughter. They laid me 79 eggs last year which are all blown ready for my egg artistry. I have made 30 eggs so far from duck, goose, emu and ostrich eggs. I have been doing it for about a year and just love it. *Penny sent me some photos of her truly beautiful eggs – they are exquisite – all bejewelled, some opening to reveal mirrors, crystal hedgehogs, butterflies etc. Fabergé eat your heart out!! Although we share a birthday, Penny will reach 65 before me because of the time difference – Ed !!!!*

Valerie Storie (1949-55). After 10 years I have decided to take a break from the day-to-day activities as Secretary. I hope to continue with the Newsletter and remain on the committee – if you'll have me. Family history still plays an active part in my life and I am in my second year as Chairman of the Windsor Branch of Berkshire Family History Society. (Please note "Chairman" as I refuse to answer to anything else – especially as Chair is something I live in!!! What a ridiculous world.) I remain as Secretary of the Slough Community Transport and ShopMobility Management Group – or more correctly, Company Secretary as we are now a registered company! I have enjoyed my time as your secretary and have learned such a great deal especially during the past 2 years with the introduction of our very special website. A time of enormous change and a huge learning curve computer-wise – whatever happened before emails. It has been a privilege to make contact with so many of you, especially everyone in the far-flung corners of the world who can now feel part of the huge family of Old Paludians by following the progress of the School – whichever one you went to!! You would be surprised just where people meet and, in conversation, find they came from Slough and went to the Grammar or High School - maybe we should have a competition for THE most exotic place. Thank you all very much for your support particularly during past difficult times, my thanks to the committee and everyone for the kind remarks and good wishes; please keep in touch especially in connection with the searches for 'lost' friends. Items for the Newsletter are always accepted.

Mary Shepherdson (Clements 1949-56). Unable to make it this year - best wishes and hope to see everyone next year.

Brenda Josling (Ashton 1949-56). Sorry I am unable to attend this year. It's my daughter's 40th birthday that weekend. I hope to make it next year. Regards to everyone.

Gillian Wallis (Trendall 1949-57). Will be attending in the afternoon. I have more or less retired – for a number of years I have been teaching children with learning difficulties (mainly dyslexia) on a one-to-one basis and now have just a few children who I am working with. For some time I have been Chairman of the local Dyslexia Association in Marlborough.

****IN MEMORIAM****

Doreen Gibbs (Richardson 1941-46). Doreen died in July 2002 after a short battle with cancer. A keen and independent traveller, she had recently been as far afield as China, Japan, Canada & New Zealand. She moved from Slough to Cornwall in 1988, where she set up Bude Mencap with her husband Fred, and was their Chairman at her death. Although resident in Cornwall she valued her oldest and closest friends from Slough and was a frequent visitor to the Thames Valley. *The sad news of Doreen's death comes from her daughter Lynne (1976-81). Our sympathies to Lynne and family - Ed.*

Angela Mitchell (Jaques 1941-48). Angela died on New Year's Eve at the age of 73 after a long illness. She had served Slough Hockey Club as a player, coach, manager and President for over 50 years and played a major role in the Slough Club's rise to become national champions in 1982 laying the foundations for the Club's domestic titles and European medals both indoors and outdoors throughout the last 20 years. Indeed, Slough are arguably the most successful club team in England. After 3 years at Chelsea PE College, (1948-51), she taught PE at the Orchard School, St Bernard's Convent and finally 19 years at Langley Grammar School until retiring in 1987. Her special love of hockey enthused her pupils inasmuch as a succession of talented players were steered towards the Slough Club; one in particular went on to win bronze representing Great Britain at the Barcelona Olympics. Angela's mother (Dorothy née Serjent) played hockey for the Old Paludians and Angela played her first game at the High School when she was 11 years old. She first joined Slough Hockey Club as a young girl in 1943, and in the ensuing years captained all their teams, played for Bucks and the South of England B team until retiring from active playing in 1986. Although hockey was her first love, she also played tennis and badminton. *We offer our condolences to husband Ian, son Neil and daughter Jenny. Angela will be greatly missed by her many friends especially those Old Paludians who were at school with her or went on to play hockey at Slough Ladies – Ed.*

Peter Dunage (1947-49). **Ken Martin** (1936-42) writes: After many years of indifferent health, came news on 24 January of the sad death of Pete Dunage - he was 68 years old. Pete had been a member of the Old Paludians since the mid-fifties, through his association with the Cricket Club. Not a great cricketer himself, his tremendous enthusiasm for the game outweighed his ability and, indeed, he had a great passion for most sports and enjoyed playing bowls in later years. When the social side of the Cricket Club's activities took over, then Pete really came into his own being an extremely active Club Administrator, Cricket Captain for about 12 years, followed by 19 years as Chairman and Club President for the last 3 years. For a while in the Eighties he was also Chairman of the Old Paludians Ltd based at Taplow (*now aka Taplow United FC*). Pete was one of the truly great characters of our time and will be very sadly missed by many, many people.

Peter is also remembered by **Mike Turner** (1945-52) and some of his recollections follow: Pete, known in his younger days, as "Snowy" because of his very fair colouring, was born in Sussex and the family arrived in the Slough area in 1947. Peter was an only child and poor health with very poor eyesight never interfered with his enormous zest for life. Fanatically interested in all sports, his main enthusiasms were for football and cricket, and later in life, became President of the Wokingham Cricket Club. He was an active follower of horseracing, motor cycle speedway, motor car racing, Brentford F.C., and, of course, the Old Paludians teams. He was also the proud owner, for a couple of years, of an HRD 1000 cc motor cycle, known as the "Black Shadow", and being pillion passenger to Peter travelling at night at 100 mph plus on this machine was an exhilarating, not to say terrifying, experience. Pete became involved with the Old Paludians through **Ray Bush**. Then, through Ray and with many others, came the funding and building a clubhouse and sports field at Berry Hill, Taplow, led and inspired by **Stan Jones**, ably assisted by **John Tebbitt**. He was a very witty fellow, with a large fund of jokes and stories and as a friend, he was extremely loyal and forgiving, and a most tolerant person. *We send our condolences to his wife Elaine. Sadly it has been necessary to shorten these tributes from Ken and Mike in order to fit the space available – if anyone wishes to have the full text please ask me – Ed.*

Jill Bradshaw (Hayward 1949-54). Jill became a Life Member last year together with her husband (**Bill** 1947-54) and they were at their first Reunion in March meeting up with a number of their former classmates. Jill had been unwell for a number of years and sadly she lost her fight in July. *We were pleased to have been able to meet her again and extend our sympathy to Bill with our sadness that our renewed acquaintanceship was so brief - Ed.*

Dorothy Willé (1949-55). Dorothy died several years ago. A number of her friends had been seeking her whereabouts and we were told of her death at last year's Reunion.

****1950s****

Enid Matthews (Watkins 1950-55). I had fully intended to come to this year's Reunion but sadly/ happily I will be in New Zealand for a long overdue visit – the first since January 2000. I have been to the Caribbean twice since then as a new grandchild arrived. The second is due in February. Both families were here together in October 2001 – wonderful chaos!! Will be thinking of you on 22nd and I am sure you will have a lovely day. Best wishes to everyone.

Jean Tyler (Ireland 1950-56). I have enjoyed the past two years as Chairman of the Association and am grateful for the active support given by the committee and my husband **Peter**. It has been an interesting time observing the development of our website, and realising by the number of visitors that it receives just how important this has been for the Association. It is good to know that this modern technology enables many past students of the schools to keep in touch. As an added interest I am putting a collection of historical photographs of the Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital onto CD. I am sure that many members will remember this establishment on the Cliveden Estate at Taplow either because they were former members of staff, patients or visitors.

Alan Clements (1950-57). New Life Member. Have now 'travelled' to retirement last year at the age of 62 via Barclays Bank (17 years) and the dear old Church of England for the subsequent 25. Worked with Barclays in branches in the Windsor area and then after ordination in the parishes of Woodley, Wokingham, Felton (Northumberland) and Wallsend (Tyne and Wear). Life has been good and now that I have time on my hands (!!) I'm seeking to locate old friends.

Jill Mansfield (1950-57). I am still working hard. All the best to everyone and I have enjoyed meeting up with you in the past. Sorry my works keeps me away.

Tony Rowe (1950-57). Moved to Australia in 1975 and now live in Adelaide, South Australia. I have five

daughters and six grandchildren – so far. I have worked in IT all my working life and am still active. Looking for **Michael Cousins** and **'Chuck' Jones**. See the “**Lost**” column.

Phil Lawrence (1950-58). A lot has happened since the 2002 Reunion. By early July I had just about fully recovered from my Christmas Eve heart attack, when my dear wife Denise was suddenly taken ill, and died 36 hours later during a major operation to rectify a previously undetected deterioration of her aorta. This was of course a great shock, but fortunately daughter June had already come home from Sheffield, son Andrew flew in from Hong Kong, and his fiancée Sarina, bless her, came straight over from Singapore. With great support from the wider family, friends and neighbours, we got through this tragic episode intact. I went off to Scout Camp in the Isle of Wight on 20th July, to spend a week among old friends at a difficult time, and life has gradually crept back to as near-normal as possible. I still do some work for the Caterpillar engine business, mainly from home, with occasional visits to customers and generator installations etc.

The year took an upswing when Andrew and Sarina brought forward their wedding date from April 2003 to October 2002. June and I travelled to Singapore, via Hong Kong where Andrew works, to be at the marriage ceremony. The even better news is that we are going back there for the reception, which is still being held on Easter Saturday as originally planned! From Singapore, I fly to Beijing for a 7-day package tour of China and the Yangtse River. It is reckoned to be the last year to see the Yangtse Gorges before they are flooded as part of the huge dam project (but the travel agents have been saying that for the past 2 or 3 years anyway!). May I wish another memorable Reunion for the Old Paludians, and another very successful year for Slough Grammar School. *Your travels to Singapore and China sound exciting – our condolences and best wishes go with you – Ed.*

David Pritchard (1951-54). Unfortunately I shall not be able to attend this year's Reunion as we have had two new grandchildren: there is a Christening on 23 March for which we are accommodating long distance relatives over the weekend and as well as helping with the arrangements. Hope to be with you next year.

Brenda Bristow (Holloway 1951-56). I'm afraid I will not be at the reunion this year, maybe next year. Wishing you all a happy Reunion.

Sylvia Legg (Naylor 1951-56). Unfortunately I am unable to attend because of living so far away, but it was lovely to have been at the Garden Party last June which coincided with our UK visit. It was good to meet Valerie Storie face to face after corresponding for some time and I was able to have a chat with some friends from High School days that I hadn't seen for almost 50 years! I hope the Reunion is as big a success as ever. *Sylvia sends us this lovely news item:-* I'm sure you've heard about the drought in the outback of many States – no rain for 2 years in some places. But - have you also hear that in Ouyen, Victoria, lots of elderly and middle-aged women got together just recently and danced a rain dance - in the nude - for the second time, apparently. The first time was some years ago and it worked then, but so far (3 days later) it is only cloudy but no rain yet! In fact hundreds turned out for it, though not all in the nude, which may account for it not working properly!!!!!! *Sylvia lives in South Australia and it was good that her trip to UK took in the June event last year. It is always nice to put a face to a name. Maybe some Old Paludians can try a “sun-dance” to ensure a good summer!!! – Ed.*

Norma Meyrick (Parker 1951-56). I won't be able to attend this year's Reunion, back from Florida just too late. Best wishes for an enjoyable day. I have been looking at the Form V M photo taken in June 1956 when we were in Miss Saunderson's form. Has anyone any idea where **Daphne Bulmer**, **Jill Goodwin** or **Elizabeth Wilson** are now? *The photo is on the website; some of the girls have been located and I know that Joy Arnold has died – Ed.*

Moya Bristow (McKean 1951-57). Thank you for past news and best wishes for all future years.

Ann Reed (Howell 1951-56). It has been lovely receiving letters and news from most of our class of 1956. This year a mini-reunion is planned, as two of our number from abroad are coming to England in May - over 45 years since they have seen us! On a personal note, our second son and his wife are moving permanently to France shortly, so I am thrilled to think I might yet be cycling around the country lanes over there again.

Clive & Marjorie Toogood - Clive (1951-56), Marjorie (Smith 1950-55). Sorry we were unable to make last year's functions due to Marjorie's illness. Sadly we cannot come this year either as I am working at Kempton Park races! Hope you have a good time.

Peter Jones (1951-1957). Unable to come to this year's Reunion as I will be on a visit to US – another time!.

Joan Lee (Wood 1951-58). Hope to be at this year's Reunion after missing last year due to moving house.

The "other" event of 2002 was the arrival of another grand-daughter – current score 4 (2 of each variety!). Looking forward to seeing everyone. *(Joan asked for her address to be recorded: I have the phone number if anyone needs it – Ed.)*

Vivien Tebbutt (Smith 1951-59). Hopes to be able to come to the Reunion if she can have a lift from **Sylvia (Burton) Cozens** – recovering from a hip replacement last July which went OK.

Jack Freer (1952-57). Will be in Tenerife instead of the Reunion! Now living in Bedfordshire.

Shirley Lane (Hope 1952-58). Retired in April and have never been so busy!! Have joined the Slough Civic Society

Carolyn Mason (King 1952-58). Unfortunately I'm unable to come along this year but I send greetings to all those who attend. No particular news – but I'll be retiring this Summer so will certainly hope to be with you all next March, when I shan't have to hurry across from the Isle of Wight...and back again ready for work (school) on the Monday. Have a lovely day! *Don't think you'll have more time when you retire – it just doesn't happen – Ed !!!*

Pat Parsons (Boulton 1953-61). There was a 'mini' Old Paludians Reunion in Beijing, China, in October 2002. Pat, her husband **Alan** (SGS 1954-60), **Annette Walker** (Penton SHS 1955-62) and **Janet Sly** (also former SHS) met up before going on to Mongolia. Pat, Janet and Alan are all doctors in New Zealand and Annette travelled out from UK to meet up with them for the exciting visit. Back in the 1950's, Annette and Pat were tennis partners whilst at school.

Lesley Teasdale (Gerrish 1954-62). A few days after moving out of our house in France at the end of July, my husband was suddenly taken ill with what proved to be pancreatic cancer. He died just over two months later. I am now living in the small apartment we had kept in Brussels, but most of our things are in storage. Until the lawyers have had their say there is nothing I can do, so I must be patient. Son, daughter and friends have been very supportive and keep me busy. By this time next year I hope everything will be sorted out! *We hope it won't take too long now and send our best wishes and condolences – Ed.*

Jenny Brooks (Hudson 1955-60). I will not be able to attend the Reunion this year, but hope to attend next year. I look forward to receiving the Newsletter.

Pat Loveday (Coleman 1955-60). I attended Slough High School from 1955-1960. I then went to Slough College of Further Education, going on to do my Nurse Training at King Edward V11 Hospital Windsor. I live in Reading and still work in nursing. I would love to hear from anyone who remembers me from SHS.

Ruth Sheppard (Clark 1955-62). I continue to have a busy musical life – regularly entertaining locally as part of a thriving Old Thyme musical group. I have also just won the part of "*Lady Shayne*" in Maidenhead Operatic Society's production of "*Bitter Sweet*" this June. Depending on various family commitments, I am hoping to meet up with friends at the Reunion. As I write, my paratrooper son, David, is preparing to go out to Kuwait, so it is a very proud but anxious time. I regularly meet **Marion Davis** (Wykeham) and attended the weddings of both her daughters last year - Claire is my god-daughter. I still cannot persuade Marion to come along, but this year her daughter Lucy is due to have her first baby on the 22nd/23rd so she has a good excuse!

Debbie Wright (Bishop 1955?-62). I run a centre for Healing in Surrey. My daughter Naomi gave me a new grandson born in June last year called Samuel Joseph, a brother for Isaac Callum. Younger daughter, Eleanor, is a mature student at West Sussex University studying social history.

Linda Hunter (Gamble 1956-59). So sorry not to be able to attend on 22 March – I will be away but good wishes to all.

Patricia (Janet) Addis (Say 1956-61). I arrived in New Zealand in 1975; I am a medical Specialist married to a GP. I would love to hear from anyone who attended Slough High School between 1956 and 1961.

Carolyn Clarke (Lloyd 1956-63). I have now retired from my work as an occupational therapist to spend more time with my 20-month-old grandson. We have 2 daughters, Becky who is married and works as an A&E nurse, and Gina who is doing her PhD in environmental science at UCL. I am sorry that I am unable to attend this year but send best wishes to anyone who may remember me.

Christine Roberts (Essam 1956-63). Christine has moved from Mapledurham to Donnington near

Newbury. She is still Head of Learning Support at Little Heath (Comprehensive) Tilehurst near Reading and is a voluntary tutor on East Berks College SpLD OCR Diploma or Certificate courses. *(I hope I have got that right!- Ed.)* It is a pleasure to receive news from the Old Paludians but the Reunion date usually clashes with the PATOSS conference, which updates my SpLD qualifications. However I shall make it one year. Best wishes to everyone.

Diana Davis (King 1957-62). I regret I am unable to attend the Reunion this year but send best wishes to everyone I know. It's been an eventful year for Brian and myself: we became proud grandparents when our daughter, Jacqui, and her partner Sean, presented us with our first grand-daughter (Jessica, who is gorgeous!) last September. Also, in May of this year our daughter, Kerry, is getting married to Andrew, so a busy time ahead. Our eldest daughter, Susie, is still living and teaching in Austria, and has recently moved to Vienna. Hopefully Brian and I can pay her a visit later this year. Always glad to receive the Newsletter.

Christine Seaville (Herman 1957-62: 3rd Form entry). I have just received the date for the AGM but am leaving England on March 10th. What a HUGE pity. I appreciate the interest Valerie has shown and the efforts made to try and make contact with my year group. I hope we will meet one day. *Christine is always pleased to hear from anyone who remembers her. Thank you and do keep in touch – Ed.*

John Bostock (1957-64). I was in the school seconds - football team and the cricket and tennis teams, and was a prefect. (I remember Dr Long as Head and Mr J Collin as deputy Head.) I went to Southampton University taking a degree in Social Sciences before joining Bristol Siddeley Engines at Patchway Bristol where I worked until 1974 during which time they were purchased by Rolls Royce. Then I moved with them to Coventry to the by then Rolls Royce Industrial and Marine Division, working in the commercial department. In 1976 I joined British Leyland and stayed with them through all their different names and owners - Austin Morris, Jaguar Rover Triumph, Rover Group, BAe, BMW finishing this summer (2002). During this time I acquired an MBA from Warwick University. I am married with 5 children and several grandchildren. I remember **Martin Douthwaite**, **John Croaker**, **Martyn Baker**, quite well as well as **Geoff Dobson**. But cannot remember others - although seeing **Colin Timms** as head boy I do remember the name - but can't put a face to it! Would be pleased to hear news of anyone from my years.

Michele (Shelley) Bovey (Sothcott 1958-64). I have been lucky enough to have a very exciting career change which means that I am now busier than at any other time in my life. I am the manager for an Australian singer, Judith Durham (some of the Older Pals may remember her as lead singer of the 60s group, The Seekers). All Miss Davidson's excellent training has come in very useful here, especially when I am faced with the responsibility of choosing a new song for Judith to release on record! She will be coming to the UK in May for a huge tour, so I hope to see a few familiar High School faces around the country. Meanwhile I shall be working in Australia, so sadly will miss the Reunion. All the best to everyone and have a really wonderful day. I am really sorry to have to miss it.

Tina Johnson (McDonald 1959-61). New Life Member. Tina lives in Rowville, about 26km SE of Melbourne in Australia and sent email photos of the recent bushfires clearly visible from her home. She writes, " ... over the past six months or so, I've made contact with a few "old girls" from SHS, **Lesley Davies**, who now lives in South Australia. I did eventually make contact with **Anne Hamblen**, who is living in Bristol, and just two days ago, I received a surprise in my email, from **Rosemary Blay**, who had been given my email address by **Ruth Lacey** ! I still haven't been able to find **Rosemary Ware**, but it's great to have re-established communication with some "old girls" ! The memories come flooding back ! I would have loved to be able to attend the Reunion, but it's the wrong time of the year ! With a bit of luck, my husband Bill and I are hoping to be in England in June this year, so maybe you could just postpone the Reunion for a few months ??!!! Oh well, one day I might make it to one... can always hope !".

Jennifer Ballard (Biss 1959-62). 2002 was not a very good year for me. I was in poor health generally and other family difficulties meant I did not attend last year's Reunion – just could not get my head around it, nor my body! In October I was called into hospital for minor op which then resulted in major radical surgery and recovery has been exceedingly slow and painful. However, I saw the Oncologist just before Christmas and was declared "all clear", ie the op had done the trick with no need for either chemo- or radio-therapy. Whew!! I have been back at work since 2 January, but have been getting very tired and not getting around to much personal business. However, my husband and I (... sounds like HMQ!) and my son have just returned from a ten-day holiday - three days of luxury in Barcelona and a week with friends in Soldeu. Neither of us ski (just my son) but we have had a week of lounging around, eating too much wonderful Catalan food and generally enjoying the climate - minus 4 degrees, brilliant sun, clear clear air etc. I feel very relaxed and apart from all the washing, ready to tackle anything. I feel this should be a new beginning - I should stop whinging and get on with things now. I do intend (life's small emergencies permitting!) to be at this year's Reunion. Old friends have been most supportive over this difficult period and they are very much

appreciated. *Glad you are well on the road to full recovery – we look forward to seeing you – Ed.*

Shelagh Rothero (Jacques 1959-63 [2nd form entry]). Shelagh has gained a Master's degree in Special Educational Needs and thoroughly enjoyed the course. *Congratulations on a brilliant achievement – Ed.*

David Dilnot (1959-66). Sorry I cannot come – I will be out of the country.

****IN MEMORIAM****

Jill Wenham (Bee 1957-62). Sue Clough (Birch) has given us the sad news about Jill who died on 9 January 2003 - she had been fighting cancer for some time.

****1960s****

Brenda Smith (Dilley 1962-69). Graduated from Imperial College, London with a degree in Chemical Engineering and spent several years roaming the globe as a chemical plant commissioning engineer and trouble-shooter, eventually settling in Hong Kong where she lives with her husband and three children. She runs her own engineering consulting companies and is still very involved in hockey. She would love to hear from any classmates and meet up with any Old Paludians who may be passing through Hong Kong. *Contact details with Valerie.*

Sally Lovelock (Fryett 1965-72). Is there anyone from Sally's years who will attend next year and make up a small group?? Sally says, "No-one from my era seems to go so that is why I haven't attended for the last couple of years". *News is a bit sparse from the 'swinging 60's so come on, have a good get together next year. I can promise you one thing, once you have met up, it will seem no time at all since you last saw each other and be it 3 years or 30, you will just never stop talking. Trust me, it really does happen. Please contact Sally on 01753 647187, she lives locally to Slough so it is a splendid opportunity to have a real good gossip and arrange something for next year – Ed !*

Laurie Brokenshire (1966-71). Cannot attend this year's Reunion – I am very sorry to say that I shall be leading HMS RALEIGH around the streets of Torpoint as it's our "Freedom of Torpoint" Day when we march, have receptions, speeches etc (possibly a glass or two as well!). It's a pity, because I'd been looking forward to being able to make it this time - it's clearly just not meant to be! Please pass my regards to those that do get there, and I very much hope that all will have a super time (I'll enjoy your snaps again, Ian, I guess?!).

Editor's Note. *Re: Commodore Laurence Brokenshire, Commanding Officer, HMS Raleigh. I am delighted to tell you that Laurie was awarded the C.B.E. in the Queen's New Year Honours List. Since joining the Royal Navy in 1975 he has had an illustrious career and this Honour is richly deserved. The Old Paludians send warmest congratulations to Laurie. As a member of the Magic Circle, he is an excellent magician – so Laurie – be careful with the Crown Jewels when you meet the Queen !!*

Di Aldrich (Veevers 1966-73). Di moves to Texas on 15 February 2003. *Good Luck and hope all goes well – Ed.*

Carol Merricks (Bates 1967-74). New Life Member. After leaving SHS I attended King Alfred's College in Winchester from 1974-1977 and I was then a Primary School teacher until 1984. I married in 1980 and we have a daughter aged 18 and a son aged 14. My husband and I have been at Monkton Combe School, near Bath, since 1986 and we are currently Houseparents of a boys' boarding house there.

****1970s****

Sandy Dale (1971-78). I can't believe it's been almost a year since the last reunion. I won't be able to come to the Reunion this year as I'm flying to Italy for a week's holiday where I'll be checking out Venice and Florence. I've recently started my own business working on computers and digital photography and I am enjoying Cornwall and travelling to various places when funds allow it. I look forward to getting news of all the members later in the year.

Corinne Ash (1975-81). Unfortunately I am once again unable to attend the Reunion as I shall be away that weekend. However, I hope all goes well and best wishes.

Sarah Vaughan Cosqu?ric
Chevalier de l'ordre National du M?rite

For outstanding contribution to Franco-British University Education

~~Alice Hudson (1975-79).~~ Are there any girls from Alice's years who would like to join her in making up a party to attend another year?? If so, please contact Valerie who will put you in touch with Alice.

Lynne Gannon (Gibbs 1976-81). Resident in Emmer Green, Reading with 3 children Olivia 11, Harry 8 and Phoebe 2. Now a full-time mum after appreciating last year that 3 children and a career in local government were not conducive to a healthy & happy life!!

Sarah Vaughan Cosqu?ric (late 1970s). Miss Saunderson sent us the following news: Sarah Vaughan was at Slough High School in the late 1970s coming from abroad. She later went on to get a degree and is now living in France. During 2002 she was awarded the following prestigious honour

Miss Saunderson goes on to say it is unusual for a non-French national to be given such an award. Sarah's visits to UK are 'flying' ones and her mother keeps Miss Saunderson posted. *Well done, Sarah.*

****1980s****

There is no news from any of the Old Paludians from this era.

The Website continues to catch the eye of Old Paludians all generations, all around the world. They find it fascinating to look at the old photographs and see all the faces from their schooldays, trying to remember names! There are now well over 200 photographs on display; the earliest is the Secondary School's Cricket First XI from 1913 – an amazing 90 years old!! There are many dating from the 1920's and in some instances 3 generations of Old Paludians are photographically recorded. Apart from the 'official' pictures we now include ones of a more social nature such as school trips, sports days etc. The website carries up-to-the-minute news about events and is being continually updated with new names for the photos and pleas for lost friends to come forward. Keep an eye on **www.oldpaludians.org** and if you can add more names to the photos from your era Ian will be pleased to hear from you. For those without an internet connection on their computer (or maybe you can 'borrow' time on a family machine) you can buy a CDROM of the website.

Many local Libraries and Day Centres also have computers that the general public may use, often with free internet access.

OUR BOOK

"Recollections of Slough Secondary School & the Old Paludians as remembered by Peter Bennett and others" The book is still available – if you would like to have a copy it will be on sale at the Reunion or contact Jean Tyler or Valerie Storie.

(£5.50 if collected, £6.50 UK posted or £8.00 for airmail). **STOCKS ARE RUNNING OUT.**

NEW LIFE MEMBERS (from Reunion 2002 to March 2003)

1930s

Frederick Esling	1934-39	Gerry Lines	1936-41
Gillyan Cann (Webb)	1936-42	Arthur Day	1936-42

1940s

Michael Ford	1941-48	Peter Ridout	1943-48
Geoff Burdett	1943-49	Doreen Holden (Eccleston)	1943-49
Joan Jones (Eyre)	1945-50	Peter Holmes	1945-50
Ann Neale (Keeping)	1945-50	John Padley-Smith	1945-50
John Read	1945-51	Michael Turner	1945-52
William (Bill) Morgan	1946-53	Roy E Arnold	1947-52
Jack Ditchfield	1947-52?	Gerry Lake	1947-52
Margaret Roberts (Oates)	1947-52 STAFF	Colin Shepherdson	1947-52
Janet Rutherford (Yates)	1947-55	Andrea Burn (Screen)	1948-54
Revd Robert Giles	1948-55	Beverly Webb	1948-56
Trevor Lewis Jones	1949-54	John Rees	1949-56
John Morgan	1949-57		

1950s

Toni King (Kent)	1950-55	Alan Clements	1950-57
Ken Butler	1951-55	George Rutter	195?-57
Alan Cordery	1951-59	Patricia Rees (Barnes)	1952-59
Jenny Launder	1953-57	Stella Holmes (Ward)	1953-56
Colin Timms	1955-63	Alan Alderman	1956-64
Margaret Smith (Spalding)	1956-6?	John Bostock	1957-64
Terry Murphy	1957-64	Tina Johnston (McDonald)	1959-61
Sandra Lowery (Tees)	1959-64	Margaret Day	1959-66
Dave Dilnot	1959-66		

1960s

Robert Deuchars	1960-68	John Treble	1960-68
Jeremy (Jerry) Folkson	1962-69	Tony Welsh	1963-70
Gail Crawford (Jones)	1967-74	Carol Merricks (Bates)	1967-74
Ian Christie	1968-75	Martyn Lloyd	1968-75

1970s

Joanna Stoddart (Elderfield)	1971-75/76	Deborah Warner (Skipper)	1971-76/77
Jackie Lawson (Pelka)	1971-78	Marie Hughes	1975-2002 STAFF

We welcome all those who have become Life Members. Our website will keep you fully informed of news, dates of events etc. and for those of you within striking distance of Lascelles Road we hope to see you at our Reunions and other functions. Letters giving news of the Reunions are sent out by post or email each January to all members and others who have shown interest and made contact during the previous year.



We've lost touch with:

Rene Elfer (Bubb 1937-42. From USA Rene would love to hear from anyone in her years at SHS

Fred Collins (1941-47). From Canada, Fred continues to wonder on the whereabouts of **Terry Wherelock, Gordon Duncan, Tony Fisher, John Fry** and **Lesley Darkes**. Can any help with this – if so you will make Fred very happy – please contact Valerie.

Mary Cane (1942-47) and friends are looking for **Gwen Hardy** (1942-47/8). Has anyone any information about Gwen – of course, she may have married and the surname will be different – but it was Hardy back then!! Any news will be welcomed.

John Padley-Smith (1945-50). Would like to make contact with any “survivors” from Upper 5A 1945-50 – do you know where **John Killip** and **Michael Webb-Morris** are? Another name is **Brian Lane** from Upper 5 – 1943-48. Are you out there?? What about **Dennis Birt** (1941-47 era) – does anyone know what happened to him?

The Over the Hill Gang 1946-47. A plea from Malcolm Hellings and his friends. We already have Ditchfield, Hellings, Glanville, Earley, Duncan, Pearce, Hannay, Simpson and Doyle but there are others both male and female. We are particularly interested in those who were at **Farnham Council 1946/1947 Mrs. Bristow's class**. There is a reward – not financial I am afraid. We still need to locate Denis Clilverd. Willie Dandridge. Billy Green. Michael Green. Colin Jones. Michael Sexton. Kenny Williams. And the girls - Brenda Allnut. Barbara Coker. Sheila Darkes. Joyce Douglas. Marjorie Denham. Gaynor Fricker. Shirley Jarvis Shirley Maclaughlan. Amber Northway. Pauline Wilkinson. Sybil Wright. If you can help please let Valerie know. *There is a very nice photo of the 'Gang' on our website when they all got together for last year's Reunion.*

Marian Challis-Warren (Hughes) (1948-52) is wondering has happened to her friend **Ann Holmes** (1948-52) so if you have any clues as to her whereabouts then please contact Valerie.

Peter Burgess and the Upper VB boys (1949-54). We are searching for as many of our group as possible – does anyone know where **Gordon Hamilton** is now? Where are **Nick Walton** (year above us), **Peter Ashley** and **Keith Ball**? Come and join us for our mini-reunions!!

Alan Clements (1950-57). Alan is a new Life Member is seeking any of his old friends – Alan now lives in Northumberland but has an e-mail address – all messages will be passed on so please get in touch.

Tony Rowe (1950-57) is wondering what became of **Michael Cousins, Tony Wynne-Jones (aka Chuck Jones)** and anyone else in the 1950-57 class.

Norma Meyrick (Parker 1951-56). Has anyone any idea where **Daphne Bulmer, Jill Goodwin** or **Elizabeth Wilson** are now – they are on the Form V M photo.

Patricia (Janet) Addis (Say 1956-61). In New Zealand since 1975; I would love to hear from anyone from my years.

Christine Seaville (Herman 1957-62: 3rd Form entry). Living in Alberta, Canada and would love to hear from anyone in her years at the High School.

John Bostock (1957-64). New Life Member and remembers the names **Martin Douthwaite, John Croaker, Martyn Baker, also Geoff Dobson**. If anyone has news of them – or anyone else from John's year – please get in touch.

Tina Johnson (McDonald 1959-61) living near Melbourne in Australia is looking for **Rosemary Ware** – does anyone have news of her whereabouts – please contact Valerie

There is a special request overleaf – are you able to help us with this one?

A request from Manitoba in Canada – someone has identified **Sandra (Jane) Bridgeland** on a 5th Form 1956 V S photograph. Was it you? Peter Sargent, now in Manitoba, started at Bodmin Grammar School with Sandra when both were aged 11 and he last saw her in December 1955. She was in the Slough area and at the High School probably by January 1956 and Peter has positively recognised her on that 1956 High School photo. It is believed Sandra's father was in the forces and then moved from the area. Peter

would love to pass on news of all her 'Cornish Contemporaries'. Please help if you can – any little snippets will be of use and we may be able to put friends back in touch after almost 50 years. Contact Valerie either by phone or email.

This is possibly our most difficult request ever - how great if we could succeed when others have failed!!

Please contact Valerie if you can help with any of the above queries – contact details below



But we've found:

Margaret (Searle) Trimming for Nancy (Pardoe) Evans Also Nancy has been put in touch with **Anne Payne** (née Ashley) whose family lived nearby in mid thirties – both were at Reunion 2002 but didn't realise!
Gerry Lines has been put in touch with **Allan Burney**
Charles Cox has been put in touch with **Derek Simmance** – played in the same "boy's band"
Peter Burgess and the Upper VB boys (1949-54 have found **Chris Penman** and **Richard York**.
Rod Cooper has been put in touch with **David Howells**
Margaret Evans (Garrod) 1950-57 has been put in touch with **Edna Jordan** (Russell)
Rita Hinton (Ashley 1951-57) has found **Marion Wicks** and several others.
Tina Johnston (Christine McDonald 1959-61) has found **Anne Hamblen** by a circuitous route but found all the same as well as several others – see Tina's news in the **1950s** section.
Jackie Lawson (Pelka 1971-78) was put in touch with **Karuna Parti**

It has not yet been possible to arrange a date with the School for the 2004 Reunion – when it has been decided, then the date will be posted onto the website. Hopefully this will be known by the late summer.

Every effort has been made to add in as much late news as possible and this year it has not always been possible to avoid running on from one page to the next for some of the news – hopefully it does not detract from your enjoyment – Ed.

The Old Paludians: 2003-2004

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